



For Immediate Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Judi Pierce
Public Information Officer
254-761-3103

New Management at Brazos River Authority's Possum Kingdom Lake

Graford, TX – January 14, 2020 – Along with the start of a new year, the Brazos River Authority Possum Kingdom Lake office begins under new management.

Randall McCartney began his tenure as reservoir manager at the office overlooking the 79-year-old Morris Sheppard Dam.

McCartney joins the BRA after having spent the past decade with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Texas A&M University graduate worked in Waco, Somerville and Grapevine with the Corps of Engineers overseeing a wide variety of duties, including managing all aspects of recreation for seven multipurpose lakes, creating and maintaining several multi-million-dollar budgets, and communicating with stakeholders and the public.

He served in the United States Marine Corps and has a Bachelor of Science in recreation, park and tourism sciences.

McCartney steps into the role following the promotion of former reservoir manager Blake Kettler, who became the BRA Technical Services Manager in October 2019. As Technical Services Manager, Kettler oversees capital improvement planning, project management, engineering services, construction management, and property administration for the Brazos River Authority.

Also joining the staff at the Possum Kingdom Lake office is Lambert Jefferson, who was hired as the reservoir's Lake Ranger Sergeant. Jefferson has almost three decades of veteran officer experience of which half was as a corporal and a sergeant, Jefferson will supervise the reservoir's complement of lake rangers.

Jefferson joins the BRA after a decade working as an emergency medical technician with CareFlite Ambulance Service in Grand Prairie. At the same time, he has spent more than 19 years as a safety officer with Lone Star Camp in Athens and as a sergeant for the Hillsboro Police Department. He also holds a state firefighter certification.

Possum Kingdom Lake, located on the main stem of the Brazos River northwest of Fort Worth, was the first water supply reservoir constructed in the Brazos River basin. Completed in 1941, the reservoir holds approximately 540,000 acre-feet of water with 230,750 acre-feet available as water supply for the Brazos basin. Possum Kingdom Lake is well known as one of the most beautiful reservoirs across the Lone Star State. Amenities include 10 lakeside parks, seven boat ramps, beautiful parks, scenic camping and picnic sites, as well as an award-winning hike and bike trail system.

-30-

About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the BRA contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The BRA also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, and Hutto. The BRA operates the Sandy Creek Potable Water Treatment Plant for the City of Leander and owns and operates the East Williamson County Regional Water System for the City of Taylor.

The BRA engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the BRA samples and tests water from more than 100 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.